

Please amend claims 22, 26, 31, 32, 44, 50, and 51 as follows:

22. (Thrice Amended) A system that is suitable for collecting bodily fluid from a region of the body of a person to be examined, the system comprising:

a lancing device which is suitable for holding a lancet, the lancet including a needle, and

a lancet magazine for storing a plurality of lancets, the lancet magazine comprising

a transport device adapted to travel along a guide groove within the lancet magazine to transport lancets, and

an opening into which the lancing device can be inserted to remove an individual lancet from the lancet magazine.

26. (Twice Amended) The system of claim 22, wherein a second opening through which protective sheaths of the lancets can be ejected is located in the lancet magazine in addition to the opening into which the lancing device can be inserted to remove a single lancet from the lancet magazine.

31. (Twice Amended) The system of claim 22, wherein a pin is located in the opening of the lancet magazine into which the lancing device can be inserted to remove a single lancet from the lancet magazine, and the pin engages in a guide groove in the tip of the lancing device which is inserted into said opening and thus causes a rotation of the lancing device or a part of the lancing device about its longitudinal axis.

32. (Twice Amended) The system of claim 22, wherein a guide groove is located in the opening of the lancet magazine into which the lancing device can be inserted to remove a single lancet from the lancet magazine; and

a pin is located in the tip of the lancing device which is inserted into said opening so that the pin engages the guide groove and thus causes a rotation of the lancing device or a part of the lancing device about its longitudinal axis.

44. (Twice Amended) The system of claim 33, further comprising a protective sheath surrounding the sterile tip.

51. (Twice Amended) The system of claim 22, wherein each of the plurality of lancets comprises a pin configured to prevent the lancet from being displaced in the lancet magazine when the lancing device is inserted.

REMARKS

Introductory Comments

Claims 22-32 and 43-52 are pending in the above-referenced application. In the November 29, 2002 Office Action, Examiner Ngo allowed claim 26, and finally rejected claims 22-25, 27-32 and 43-52.

By this Amendment, Applicants have canceled claim 52 without disclaimer or prejudice, and amended claims 22, 26, 31, 32, 44, 50, and 51 to place the application in condition for allowance or to place the claims in better form for consideration on appeal.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 22-25, 27-30, 43, and 46-50 and 52 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Jones, U.S. Patent No. 4,821,878.